Scranton Tribune.

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CANAL CONTEST BEFORE CONGRESS

First Notes of the Coming Battle Heard in Senate and House Yesterday.

STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE RIVAL ROUTES

Debate Opened in the House in Lively Fashion by Mr. Hepburn. The Offer of the Panama Canal Company Is Considered—An Alleged Plan to Secure Delay—Advantages of the Nicaragua Route Pointed Out.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The first notes of the contest between the Nicaragua and Panama routes for the isthmian canal were heard in the senate today. Mr. Morgan offered and secured the adoption of a resolution which indicated his purpose to have the committee on inter-oceanic canals inquire into to relations alleged to exist between the trans-continental railroad companies of the United States and Canada and the Panama Canal company. In explanation of the resolution, Mr. Morgan declared that the alleged relations were a "wicked monopoly," which already had cost the people of the Pacific coast millions of dollars. The relations involved the control by the Panama Canal company of the Panama Railroad company and the agreement existing between certain railroads of the United States and the Pacific Mail Steamship company.

At the conclusion of business today, the senate paid a compliment to Senator Foraker, of Ohio, by adjourning until 2 o'clock tomorrow, in order that senators might attend the marriage of Miss Foraker, which is to occur at noon tomorrow, without interfering with their legislative duties.

Debate in the House.

The debate on the Nicaragua canal bill in the house was opened in lively fashion today by Mr. Hepburn, chairman of the interstate and foreign commerce committee, which reported the bill. For two hours he held the floor, replying to a volley of question concerning the recent offer of the Panama Canal company to sell its property and franchises to the United States for $40,000,000. The interest in the debate centered almost entirely in this new phase of the subject. Mr. Hepburn maintained that the alleged new offer of the Panama company was part of the plan of delay. All his utterances along that line were liberally applauded. He pointed out what he claimed was the suspicious circumstance that the Panama company held out for $109,000,000 until it was decided before the holiday recess to consider the Nicaragua bill, and then suddenly dropped the price to $40,000,000.

Mr. Hepburn pointed out the advantages of the Nicaragua route for sailing vessels, on account of the better winds prevailing there, contending in this connection that it was a mistake to suppose that the sailing ship was destined to disappear from the ocean. Where the Panama route was located, sailing ships sometimes lay for five months in the doldrums. When Mr. Hepburn said he had hoped that the proposed waterway would be free of charge to American ships, there was an outburst of applause on the Republican side. If that might be done, he said, it would give a great impetus to American shipping.

At all events, he said, the Nicaragua route was 400 miles nearer the United States than Panama.

In concluding, Mr. Hepburn said there might be some interests in the United States which believed they would be harmed by the rivalry of this canal, and there were gentlemen of honest purpose who thought the time was not ripe for the building of a canal, or that an enterprise of such magnitude should not be undertaken. They were, perhaps, terrified by the spectre of scandal.

The Time for Action.

"But," he concluded, "I insist that the American people have made their decree that the canal shall be built, and that now is the time to build it." (Applause.)

After Mr. Hepburn had concluded his set speech, he was besieged with questions.

Asked as to the advisability of giving the president the authority to build on either route, Mr. Hepburn again raised an outburst of applause by declaring that he looked upon any attempt to entangle the United States in the Panama enterprise as an effort to defeat any canal.

Mr. Morris (Minn.) gave notice that at the proper time he would offer an amendment to authorize the president, if he could procure the property and rights of the Panama company for $40,000,000, if concessions could be procured from Colombia and if the Walker commission so recommended, to purchase and proceed to complete the Panama canal. Messrs. Davis (Florida), Richardson (Alabama), Mann (Illinois) spoke in favor of the Nicaragua bill, and Adams (Pennsylvania) thought the offer of the Panama company should receive careful consideration. If the cost of the two routes were substantially equal, he contended that the Panama route was preferable.

Schley Resolution Introduced.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Representative Hooker, of Mississippi, today introduced a joint resolution reciting that Commodore Schley was the senior officer in command at the battle of Santiago; that he was in absolute command at that battle and is "entitled to the credit due to such commanding officer for the glorious victory which resulted in the total destruction of the Spanish ships."

The resolution provides for the thanks of congress to Admiral Schley and the officers and men under his command.

NEGRO ESCAPES LYNCHING.

Runs Away from a Crowd That Had a Rope on His Neck.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Tampa, Fla., Jan. 7.—John Miller, a negro, covered with blood and bruises, walked into police headquarters today and stated an attempt to lynch him had been made at Port Tampa City, eight miles below here, last night.

Several houses were burned there, and Miller says a crowd of white men, many of whom he knew, placed a rope around his neck and took him out into the woods, where they tried to hang him. He managed to escape, and today was locked up for safe keeping.

DISASTER AT IRON MINES

From Thirteen to Seventeen Miners Thought to Have Been Lost.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Negaunee, Mich., Jan. 7.—From thirteen to seventeen miners are thought to have lost their lives, as the result of a cave-in at the bottom of the old shaft at the Negaunee mine today. The names of the dead, so far as known, are:

William Williams, John Sullivan, John Pascoe, John Pearce, Jacob Hunlalla.

The latter's body has been recovered.

Dominic Basso, an Italian, was rescued alive. His story is as follows:

"We were sitting around the pump at the bottom of the shaft when, without any warning, thousands of tons of ore came down. I remembered no more until I heard the sound of picks and shovels in the hands of rescuers, and their shouts. When they found me, I was in a drift seventy-five feet from the place where I had been sitting."

Hundreds of men are at the mine, eager to help in the work of rescue, but it is thought the other bodies cannot be found within twenty-four hours.

The Negaunee mine is considered one of the most unlucky properties in the Lake Superior district. Much trouble has resulted in sinking and drifting from surplus water and quicksands.

It was at this mine that $1,000,000 was recently expended to sink a shaft to the ledge.

From the condition of the shaft it would seem that the men are surrounded by a large mass of dirt and broken timber. The lower portion of the shaft is so badly twisted that the cage will not operate within 100 feet of where the men are entombed. A rescuing party of about fifteen of the most skillful miners at the mine was organized immediately.

Thirty men were working on the level during the morning but the majority of them went to the surface to eat their dinners, those later caught under the debris having taken their lunch with them.

A dull roar and a sound of crashing timbers gave to the men on the surface the first indication of the disaster being enacted nearly five hundred feet under ground. A rush was made for the shaft and when all had quieted down, volunteers under the lead of Captain James Piper descended in the cage in an attempt to rescue the men.

It was found, however, that the shaft was badly damaged, it being impossible to get within eighty feet of the level in which the men were buried.

Cries for help were heard at the lowest point reached and the removal of the timbers which blocked the way found a man who shortly before the cave-in had started for the surface. He was uninjured but was drenched to the skin and suffering greatly with cold. The man could throw no light on the fate of his associates, the majority of whom are thought to be Italians and Finlanders.

If the workmen are not rescued within the next ten or twelve hours all hope of getting them out alive will be abandoned.

The officials would not make any statement for publication as to the condition of the men or the number of men underground. In fact they will not be able to tell until all the other workmen in that level report at the office. It is assumed that this will be done tomorrow.

ALASKA WIRELESS TELEGRAPH.

Likelihood of Communication Between Nome City and Seattle.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—Alaska and the United States soon may be connected by wireless telegraphy.

Seattle capitalists are negotiating with Chicago firms for equipment for the proposed line, and the promoters believe that with the opening of the summer season the line will be in operation between Nome City and Seattle.

Valuable Bull Sold.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—The Hereford bull "Perfection 92,801," was sold for $9,000 today at the Union stock yards, Chicago. This is the highest price ever paid in America for a Hereford and the highest price in recent years for a bull or cow of any breed. Perfection was the champion Hereford bull of the International Live Stock exposition in December. He headed the list of fifty-six animals sold today by Thomas Clark, of Beecher, Ill., and was purchased by Gilbert H. Hoxie, vice president of the Mallory Live Stock Commission company, of Chicago.

TOUR OF LIBERTY BELL.

Splendid Ovations All Along the Line—Will Rush Across North Carolina Today.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Asheville, N. C., Jan. 7.—After a splendid demonstration at Bristol this morning the Liberty bell swiftly crossed Tennessee and was given a series of ovations such as it has rarely been accorded. At Bristol, which is in two states, the mayors headed an extensive reception committee and there was some fervid oratory and singing of patriotic songs by several hundred school children led by a quartette. The early morning air was quite frosty but the crowd hung about the bell until the last moment and sent it on its journey with hearty cheers. Big crowds greeted the bell at Johnson City, Greenville, Morristown, Newport and Marshall. No stop was scheduled for Marshall, but the escorting party had received such an urgent request from United States Senator Pritchard for a few minutes' stop that the change was made. Senator Pritchard headed the big crowd in waiting and made a speech of thanks. Then began the run up the mountain to Asheville, and as the train moved along the rugged banks of the beautiful French Broad river, there was a flutter of flags from every hill side cabin and a shout of greeting as the train swept past Hot Springs. There was a warm welcome at Asheville, the crowd at the station being large and enthusiastic. The ovation to the bell continued during the day and evening.

After a trolley ride to Sunset mountain, the bell escort was this evening tendered a banquet at the Battery Park hotel, where a number of speeches were made.

Tomorrow the bell will rush across North Carolina and into Georgia, spending the night at Savannah.

M'KINLEY MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Proclamation Issued Upon the Subject by Governor Stone—A Fund Expected from Pennsylvania.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 7.—Governor Stone tonight issued the following proclamation:

To the People of Pennsylvania:

The governor of Ohio has by public proclamation called attention to the McKinley National Memorial association organized for the purpose of raising a fund for the erection of a suitable monument at the grave of William McKinley, and has recommended that the people of Ohio be given an opportunity to contribute to this fund.

The citizens of Pennsylvania who have so richly profited by his life work owe a great debt to William McKinley, and the response to the invitation of the McKinley National Memorial association should be prompt and liberal.

I, therefore, heartily join with the governor of Ohio in suggesting that Wednesday, January 29, the fifty-ninth anniversary of the birth of William McKinley be observed by all the schools of the state as "McKinley Day" and that on the Sunday preceding the 29th of January special memorial exercises be held in all our churches. I also suggest that an opportunity be then given in both schools and churches to those who desire to aid this work.

Each contributor is requested to give his name and postoffice address so that a suitable memorial receipt may be returned therefor by the association.

Contributions may be sent direct to Myron T. Herrick, treasurer, Cleveland, O.; or if sent to Thomas Dolan, Philadelphia, or William McConway, Pittsburg, trustees of this association, they will be promptly forwarded.

(Signed) William A. Stone, Governor.

BELMONT'S BATTLE WAGED IN VAIN

Montague Lessler Elected to Congress from the Seventh New York—Bitter Factional Fight.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Jan. 7.—Montague Lessler, Republican, was elected to congress in the Seventh district today, to succeed Nicholas Muller, Democrat, resigned. He beat Perry Belmont, the regular Democratic candidate, by 394 votes, the county showing these figures:

Lessler, 7,677; Belmont, 7,283. The rest of the vote was: Ward, Scoail, Democrat, 107; Lindinger, Independent Democrat, 135; Bennett, Greater New York Democracy, 182.

The Seventh congressional district is made up of Richmond borough (Staten Island) and thirty election districts in the extreme lower end of this city.

There was a contest over the Democratic nomination between Mr. Belmont and Joseph F. O'Grady, each of whom declared himself to be the regularly chosen nominee. Justice Scott, of the Supreme court, decided in favor of Belmont, and Lindinger, who had announced himself as an Independent Democratic candidate, thereupon withdrew. Lindinger withdrew too late to have his name stricken from the official ballot. The canvas was a most bitter one, as regards the Democratic factions. Charges of the free use of money were frequent, and last night Superintendent of Elections McCullagh announced that he had discovered a plan of wholesale colonization. During today, the McCullagh detectives made a score of arrests. Among them, those of ex-Alderman Joseph Welling and John Pye, a Democratic district captain, who were taken to court on a charge of having abetted illegal registration. Each was released in $2,000 bail until Thursday. George B. Jolliffe, chairman of the board of election inspectors, was also arrested on the charge that he had permitted four men to vote on the names of two registered voters. His bail was fixed at $1,000.

Westinghouse Capital Increased.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, Jan. 7.—At a meeting of the stockholders of the Westinghouse Machine company held here today the capital stock was increased from $3,000,000 to $5,000,000. The increase was made to provide additional working capital.

SCHOOL WORK OF THE YEAR

Annual Report of Superintendent Schaeffer, of Department of Public Instruction.

NO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROPRIATIONS

Report Compliments Treasurer Barnett for Paying the School Appropriation for 1901 Five Months Sooner Than Ever Before—Appropriations That Will Benefit the Country Districts — Regarding Compulsory Education—Statistics of the Schools About the State.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 7.—Dr. N. C. Schaeffer, superintendent of public instruction, in his annual report to Gov. Stone for the fiscal year ending June 3, 1901, refers to the prompt payment of the school appropriation for the current fiscal year and calls attention to the fact that the last legislature appropriated over $12,000,000 for school purposes. Dr. Schaeffer makes no recommendations for legislation inasmuch as there is no legislative session during this winter and confines the report to a statement of what has been done to carry into effect the enactments of the last legislature. The report compliments State Treasurer Barnett for paying the school appropriation for 1901, five months sooner than ever it was before paid.

Dr. Schaeffer states that the appropriation of $50,000 by the last legislature in aid of township high schools is a step in the direction of giving the pupils in country districts school advantage equal to those within reach of boys and girls in the cities and larger boroughs.

Speaking of the difference in the amounts received by school districts in 1900 and 1901, Dr. Schaeffer says it must be ascribed to the triennial assessment of 1900, on which the basis of distribution is made. The state is increasing in population and the rate per taxable must decrease.

In 1900 it was $1, but in 1901 it is but $0.915 and unless the increase in a district keeps pace with the general increase throughout the state the amount of its appropriation will be reduced. This, unfortunately, will fall hardest on the farming communities, as the larger increase is in cities and boroughs. The appropriation for township high schools, however, will remove the inequality to some extent. Dr. Schaeffer thinks it would be wise to increase the high school appropriation so that it could be made applicable to all high schools regardless to location.

Compulsory Education.

Speaking of the compulsory education act, Dr. Schaeffer says that it was the most important relating to education passed by the recent legislature. Then he adds:

"It will require skill, tact and good judgment on the part of school officers to secure the best results from the law. Many difficulties will arise which will be hard to overcome in any case, but unless the directors themselves will endeavor to enforce the law in the proper spirit, it will be hard to command the willing co-operation of the patrons, which is so essential in order to produce the best results."

The following statistics are given in the report:

No. of school districts in the state	2,516
No. of schools	29,046
No. of graded schools	16,625
No. of superintendents	141
No. of male teachers	9,194
No. of female teachers	29,850
Whole number of teachers	39,044
Average length of term in months	8.28
Whole number of pupils	1,161,521
Average number of pupils in daily attendance	847,445
Average salaries of male teachers per month	$ 44 14
Average salaries of female teachers per month	38 23
Cost of school houses, purchasing, building, renting, etc	4,982,095 49
Teachers' wages	11,355,331 47
Cost of school text books	766,987 10
Cost of school supplies, other than text books, including maps, globes, etc	433,597 76
Fuel, contingencies, fees of collectors and other expenses	5,275,382 32
Total expenditures	22,813,395 14
State appropriation for the school year ending June 4, 1900	5,000,000 00
Estimated value of school property	54,122,398 88

OUR SAILORS FIGHT RUSSIAN SOLDIERS

A Serious Clash at Nieuchang, China. The Subject of Complaint to Mr. Conger.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 7.—A serious clash has occurred between American sailors of the United States steamship Vicksburg and the Russian soldiery at Nieuchang, China. There have been three fights and as a result one Russian soldier is reported wounded.

The matter was made the subject of complaint by the Russian ambassador at Pekin to United States Minister Conger and Mr. Conger in turn has informed the state department. Secretary of the Navy Long has cabled Commander Berry, of the Vicksburg, to use every effort to prevent further collisions. The Vicksburg is in winter quarters in a mud dock at the mouth of the river and cannot be released before spring.

BAGGED THE BRIBER.

The Oleo Agent Who Attempted to Corrupt a Food Commissioner Is Caught Greasy-Handed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 7.—A special to the News from Kalamazoo, Mich., says:

"An attempt to bribe State Food Commissioner W. B. Snow of this city in order to prevent prosecutions for the sale of oleomargarine made by the Hammond Packing company, of Hammond, Ind., ended in the sensational arrest last night of Charles H. Thompson, of Chicago, in Commissioner Snow's house.

"Snow was approached some time ago by an alleged representative of the Hammond company. With the knowledge of the prosecuting attorney and Governor Bliss, a meeting was arranged last night. Snow, so it is said, agreed to accept as a bribe half a cent per pound for all the Hammond oleomargarine sold in Michigan and in return, was to see that there were no prosecutions of that company's agents in the state for violating the pure food laws. The Hammond man said their sales ran from 25,000 to 60,000 pounds per month. Thompson went to Commissioner Snow's house by appointment Monday evening, handed him a check for $120. With it in his hand, Snow opened a door to another room as a signal to Sheriff Glenn Shipman, who stepped out.

"'Let me introduce Sheriff Shipman,' said Snow.

"Thompson was immediately arrested and spent the night in jail. This morning Food Commissioner Snow swore to a warrant charging Thompson with offering a bribe. Thompson secured bail."

ADMIRAL SCHLEY WILL APPEAL CASE

The Decision of Majority of Court of Inquiry Will Be Laid Before President Roosevelt.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Messrs. Rayner and Teague, counsel for Rear Admiral Schley, came over from Baltimore today and were closeted for several hours with their client. Admiral Schley would not discuss the matter, beyond stating that he had asked his counsel to come here that he might acquaint them with the result of his talk with President Roosevelt, and agree upon the best method of bringing the facts before the president.

The following statement was given out by Admiral Schley's counsel at the conclusion of the conference:

"Admiral Schley has concluded, after mature and careful deliberation, to appeal from the majority decision of the court of inquiry to the president of the United States, as commander-in-chief of the army and navy. This action having been determined upon, nothing more can be divulged at this time, the regulations of the navy being such that the nature of the proposed appeal cannot be revealed, except by the president, after the formal documents have been filed with him."

Mr. Rayner stated that it will take some time to prepare the appeal and that it will not be filed with the president until after the return of Admiral Schley from his visit to Savannah, about the 20th inst.

POPULATION OF UNITED STATES

Latest Report Issued from the Census Bureau for the Year 1900. Total Population.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The census bureau today issued a report announcing that the population of the entire United States, including all outlying possessions, was 84,233,069 in the census year 1900. This is itemized as follows:

Continental United States, or United States proper 75,994,575 (heretofore announced); Philippines 6,961,339, being the estimate of the statistician to the Philippine commission; Porto Rico, 953,243; Hawaii, 154,001; Alaska, 63,592; Guam, 9,000; American Samoa, 6,100; persons in the military and naval service of the United States outside of the territory of the United States proper 91,219. The report announces that the twelfth census only extended to Alaska and Hawaii outside of "Continental United States" but that the figures for the rest of the United States domain are taken from the best available resources.

STEEL CORPORATION EARNINGS

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Jan. 7.—In the nine months ending December 31, the net earnings of the United States Steel corporation were $84,779,208. The quarterly meeting of the directorate was held here today and besides voting the usual dividend of 1¾ per cent. on preferred and 1 per cent. on common stack a general statement of the finances of the corporation was made public. The net earnings by months were as follows:

April, $7,556,74; May, $9,612,349; June, $9,294,747; July, $9,560,151; August, $9,810,880; September, $9,372,812; October, 12,205,774; November, $9,795,841; December (estimated), $7,750,000. Total, $84,779,208.

As to the December earnings the statement made this explanation:

"During the close of lake navigation from December to April, inclusive, the earnings of mining and transportation companies are, of course, diminished.

"The sinking fund on United States Steel corporation bonds and the bonds of subsidiary companies consumed $2,262,292 and depreciation reserve and contingent funds and improvements $9,695,702. The sum of $11,400,000 was paid in interest on bonds for nine months and $42,035,897 was paid out in dividends. The balance available for surplus or new construction amounted to $19,414,497.

Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Jan. 7.—Cleared: Zeeland, Antwerp via Southampton. Rotterdam—Arrived: Statendam, New York. Plymouth—Sailed: Pennsylvania (from Hamburg), New York.

THE COURT ENTERS FORBIDDEN CITY

RECRUITS ARE WRECKED.

Three Men Injured by Railroad Accident in Chicago.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—A Rock Island special train, bearing 300 recruits bound for the Philippines from Columbus barracks, Ohio, was wrecked in the Twenty-second street yards today. Three men were injured. They are: Henry Lewis, taken to a hospital; C. C. Murphy and Lawrence Schaefer, who continued on their journey.

The accident is said to have been caused by the failure of a switch to work properly. A sleeper occupied by eight officers and the wife of one of them, was thrown to an adjacent track, but maintained its upright position. After several hours' delay, the train was remade and the journey continued.

RECEPTION AT WHITE HOUSE

President and Mrs. Roosevelt Give the First Formal Evening Levee.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 7.—President and Mrs. Roosevelt gave a reception at the White House tonight in honor of the diplomatic corps. It was the first formal evening levee of the season and the first at which President and Mrs. Roosevelt have been the host and hostess. A full representation of the diplomatic corps made the affair notably brilliant.

The floral decorations were handsome and elaborate. President and Mrs. Roosevelt received their guests in the blue room. Their entrance was announced by a fanfare of trumpets of members of the United States Engineer band stationed in the long corridor. Assisting the president and Mrs. Roosevelt were Mrs. Root, Mrs. Knox, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Hitchcock and Mrs. Wilson.

The diplomatic corps accompanied by the ladies of the legations assembled in the red parlor and headed by Sir Julian Pauncefote, the dean of the corps, passed the receiving party the introductions being made by Colonel Theodore Bingham. After them were received the higher officials of the army and navy, the members of the Supreme court, many senators and representatives in congress and a large number of resident society folk of Washington. President Roosevelt gave every visitor a hearty hand clasp and a cordial welcome, while Mrs. Roosevelt, though refraining from grasping the hands of visitors generally, was charmingly gracious in her manner. She carried a large bunch of white and purple orchids. All the members of the diplomatic corps wore the full insignia of their rank, which with the brilliant uniforms of the army and navy and the handsome toilets of the ladies, made the scene a memorable one. The hours of the reception were from 9 to 11 o'clock. The music was furnished by the Marine band and the United States Engineer band.

WRECK AT HAGERSTOWN.

Engine Topples Over and Down a Thirty-foot Embankment.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Hagerstown, Md., Jan. 7.—A serious wreck occurred today on the Western Maryland cut-off line at Culberton, caused by a Reading freight train sideswiping a Western Maryland train standing on a siding. The Reading engine was upset down a thirty-foot embankment and the fireman seriously injured.

The engineer escaped with slight injuries. Conductor Robert Shober, of the Reading train, was badly injured. Both engines and a number of cars were smashed.

TWO KILLED BY A BLAST.

Colorado Workmen Blown Up in the Newhouse Tunnel.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Idaho Springs, Co., Jan. 7.—As a result of a premature explosion of powder blasts in the Newhouse tunnel two men are dead, another is fatally injured and two others are in a serious condition. The dead are Ernest Wheeler and John Eckard and the injured are A. C. B. Lawes, fatally; Harry Baird, ribs broken, and oLuis Phillips, hand crushed.

The men were known as the powder gang. They were loading holes with powder under direction of Lawes, the foreman, when in some unknown way the explosion was caused.

Ready to Disperse Lynchers.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Jackson, Miss, Jan. 7.—Governor Longino has ordered the Capital City guard of this city to hold themselves in readiness to go to Oxford. The sheriff there is apprehensive that a mob tonight will try to lynch Will Mathis, Orlanda Lester, Will Jackson and Whit Owens, in jail there. Three of these men recently have been convicted of the murder of the two Montgomerys.

Postal Frank for Mrs. McKinley.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 7.—A bill granting to Mrs. McKinley the postal franking privilege for all her correspondence was favorably reported today by the house committee on postoffices and postroads. Similar privileges have heretofore been granted to Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. Lincoln, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Garfield and Mrs. Logan.

Fatal Head-on Collision.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Roanoke, Va., Jan. 7.—A head-end collision on the Kenova division of the Norfolk and Western railroad occurred at 7 o'clock this morning, in which Hugh Smith, an express messenger and baggage master of this city, and Flagman John Turner, of Bluefield, W. Va., were killed.

Chinese Empress Dowager, Prince Chun and Others Are in the Procession.

PERFECT ORDER PREVAILS IN PEKIN

The Members of the Imperial Court Return from Exile with a Flourish of Trumpets and Flaunt of Yellow Umbrellas—A Street Parade Through Miles of Kneeling Soldiers—Foreign Community Allowed to Witness the Scene from the Top of the Chien Gate—Yellow Jackets Conferred Upon Officials Who Assisted the Court in the Flight from Pekin.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The following cablegram was received this afternoon at the state department from Minister Conger at Pekin:

"Court entered imperial palace at 2 o'clock today. Perfect order prevails in the city."

Pekin, Jan. 7.—The imperial cortege, with the emperor and empress dowager, entered the Forbidden City this afternoon. It was the most brilliant scene Pekin ever witnessed. The procession consisted of a thousand gorgeously attired noblemen, mounted upon glitteringly caparisoned horses. The emperor, the empress dowager, Prince Chun, the empress and several princes were borne in yellow chairs, their escort carrying hundreds of gay banners and silk umbrellas. The troops of General Yuan-Shi-Kai, governor of Pe Chi Li, preceded the emperor. The foreign community assembled on top of the Chien gate.

The emperor and empress dowager entered the temple in the gate and burned incense. The empress upon emerging from the temple saw the foreigners peering down and bowed. A double row of soldiers, kneeling, lined the four-mile route.

London, Jan. 7.—It is announced in a special dispatch from Pekin that an imperial edict has been issued, conferring yellow jackets on Yuan Shi Kai, viceroy of Chi-Li, and on Tsen Chun Hsuan, governor of Shan-Si, who protected the Chinese court's flight from Pekin. Both these officials are privileged to ride on horseback in the Forbidden City.

CHILE-ARGENTINA AGREEMENT

Latter Government to Sign the Protocol Today.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, Jan. 7.—The Exchange Telegraph company says a cable dispatch has been received by an important South American financial house in this city saying that the difficulties between Chile and Argentina over the wording of the arbitration protocol have been settled, and that the Argentine government has promised to sign the protocol today.

Buenos Ayres, Jan. 7.—The governments of Argentina and Chile having come to an agreement on the wording of the clauses in the protocol referring to the policing of the Ultima Esperanza, Argentina's rights in the matter being safeguarded, the representations of Argentina on the wording of the clauses referred to are ended. All the questions in dispute now will be submitted to the arbitration of the British commission.

CRISIS AT PAN-AMERICAN.

Chileans and Central Americans Can not Agree as to Arbitration.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Mexico City, Jan. 7.—The arbitration situation has reached a crisis among the delegations of the Pan-American conference. Today the Central and South Americans opposed to the Chileans held frequent meetings to decide on the form of procedure under which they will introduce the arbitration plan into the conference.

If they cannot find a form acceptable to other delegations, they will probably withdraw. The Chileans also say that in whatever form the compulsory arbitration plan is reported to the conference, they will quit.

NO ARMY LAW REVISION.

Mr. Hull Disclaims Any Desire to Meddle with Present Statute.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Representative Hull, chairman of the house committee on military affairs, said today that there would be no move at this session of congress for a revision of the present army organization or for any broad general legislation affecting the army.

"I favor letting the present law demonstrate its usefulness before tinkering with it," added Mr. Hull.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Forecast for Wednesday and Thursday: Eastern Pennsylvania, cloudy Wednesday; Thursday, fair; light easterly winds.